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Attorney Docket No. 950376D1/HG

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Tohru TAKAHASHI et al.
Serial No. : 09/842,347
Filed : April 25, 2001
For : EXPRESSION SYSTEM
UTILIZING AUTOLYZING
FUSION PROTEINS AND A
NOVEL REDUCING POLYPEPTIDE
Art Unit : 1652
Examiner : Fronda

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

This is a response to the Office Action of September 18, 2002 (Paper No. 7) which is a Restriction Requirement under 35 USC 121. The term for responding to the Office Action ends on October 18, 2002.

R E M A R K S

The Examiner is respectfully requested to acknowledge applicants' claim for priority under 35 USC 119 and receipt of the certified copies of the priority documents that were filed in the grandparent application Serial No. 08/500,635 on November 27, 1995.

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

Dorothy DeFrancesco
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In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

The Examiner is also respectfully requested to return a copy of the Form PTO-1449 filed on April 25, 2001 and to indicate thereon that the cited publications were considered and made of record.

Restriction was required under 35 USC 121 as follows:

- Group I. Claims 48, 55, 60 and 80, drawn to a polypeptide;
- Group II. Claims 61, 63, 89 and 90, drawn to methods of prophylaxis or treatment; and
- Group III. Claims 71 to 75 and 77 to 79, drawn to antibodies to KM31-7.

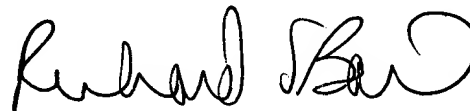
Applicants elect Group I (claims 48, 55, 60 and 80).

It is noted that claim 77 is not drawn to an antibody, but rather to a process for the purification of KM31-7 protein.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

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Respectfully submitted,



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